

Get Started Today! Produce Results!

CARE offers two different types of Cooperative Agreements (a kind of grant): the smaller Level I Cooperative Agreement (about \$75,000) and the larger Level II Cooperative Agreement (about \$300,000). With a Level I Agreement, communities organize and create a collaborative partnership dedicated to reducing toxics in their local environment. These partnerships work on Steps 1 and 2 in the CARE process. Where possible, they also begin step 3. With a Level II Agreement, the community already has established a broad based collaborative partnership and focuses on steps 3 and 4 of the CARE process.

For more information:

Call toll free at 1-877-CARE 909
or visit our Web site at
www.epa.gov/CARE.

Write to us at:

CARE Program
Mailcode 8001A
US EPA
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington DC, 20460



EPA CARE Program (8001A)
Washington, DC 20460
Official Business Only
Penalty for Private Use \$300

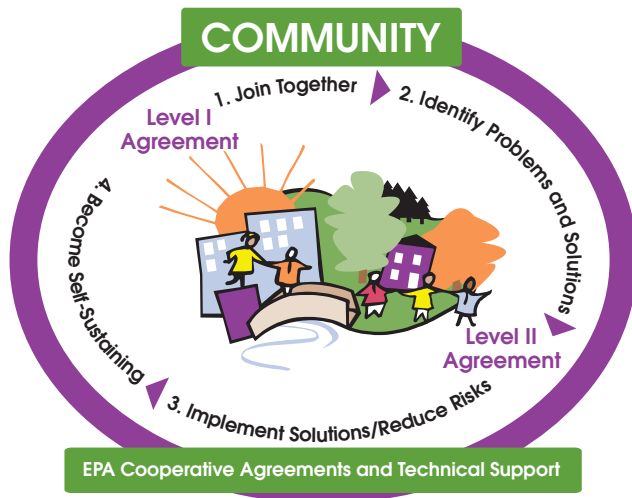


Do You Need Help Reducing Harmful Pollution in Your Community?



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COMMUNITY



The new **Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE)** program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is a competitive grant program that offers an innovative way for communities to take action to reduce toxic pollution.

Through **CARE**, communities create local collaborative partnerships that implement local solutions to reduce releases of toxic pollutants and minimize exposure to toxic pollutants.

CARE educates and supports communities by helping them assess the pollution risks they face while also providing funding and access to EPA's and other voluntary programs to address local environmental priorities. In addition, EPA offers support for communities to develop their own approach to reducing toxics. Examples of some of the EPA voluntary programs that reduce exposure to toxics and create safer communities include programs that: reduce emissions from diesel engines, reduce waste from toxic chemical use, reduce emissions from small business operations while reducing costs, improve the indoor environment in schools, and protect drinking water supplies through pollution prevention.

The CARE Process

1. Join Together

A broad-based partnership is formed. Partners could be non-profit groups, community organizations, businesses, schools and state, Tribal and local government agencies, EPA and other Federal Agencies.

2. Identify Problems and Solutions

Working together, this stakeholder group assesses toxics problems in their community and considers options for reducing risks. Many of the emission and exposure reductions will result from the application of EPA voluntary programs.

3. Implement Solutions/Reduce Risks

The partnership identifies the combination of programs that best meet the community's needs. EPA funding helps to implement these projects. The community begins improving its environment.

4. Become Self Sustaining

The community now develops new ways to attract funding and partners into their broad-based collaborative to build on its success. New problem assessments are completed and new solutions identified. The Result: The partnership becomes self-sustaining and continues working to improve their environment where community members live, work and play.

CARE will help your community:

- Create local partnerships to reduce exposure to toxic pollutants through voluntary, local action based upon community consensus.
- Build community capacity and decision-making skills to respond to pollution problems.
- Focus on indoor and outdoor sources of toxics.